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NEED OF A CONVENTION HALL.

There are no two ways of looking at it Newport News needs a convention hall and it needs it badly. With its present facilities it would be an utterly absurd to ask a large body of men or women to come here for convention purposes. If such a thing was done and the invitation accepted the whole thing would redound to the discredit of the city.

Whenever a city has constructed a convention hall there has been no regrets because of the time and money expended on it. It has been proved time and again that they were the best sort of investments and there is no reason why such should not prove to be the case with Newport News. One instance can be cited where a large convention hall proved to be an almost unlimited benefit to the place in which it was constructed. At Saratoga Springs for years the people depended upon an old roller skating rink for convention hall purposes and it answered fairly well till other places began to build modern convention halls and then Saratoga began to lose many of its big conventions and there was a fearful loss of trade in consequence. The awakening came and the people of the Spa began to hustle. The result was that the resort has on one of its leading streets a convention hall that cost about \$150,000 and has a seating capacity of something like ten thousand. The conventions again came to Saratoga and the expensive hall has proved to be the best investment the town ever made. It is, of course, not necessary to build such an enormous or expensive hall in this city, where no thought is entertained of entertaining conventions that has ten or fifteen thousand delegates, but Saratoga's case is given just to show what a great benefit a convention hall is to a town.

People attending most conventions are money spenders. The convention in the great majority of cases is the vacation of the delegate and he is willing and glad to unloose himself from the change that he has saved for that purpose. Two or three hundred people in Newport News for five days means a lot of money in the city and it would not take a very many conventions to pay for a convention hall. Every merchant in Newport News who subscribes for the fund for a hall would undoubtedly receive his money back, so it is a good thing from a financial view as well as from the standpoint that local pride dictates that the city should have a convention hall.

FOR PROTECTION OF WOMEN.

The Rev. Dr. Montague Geer, rector of St. Paul's church in New York city who is ordinarily a most conservative man in the pulpit made some startling statements in his pulpit on Friday noon. Dr. Geer's church is in the very heart of the business district of New York and it is open every noon for a brief service for business men and usually there is five minutes' sermon by the brilliant preacher. During

his sermon on Friday of this week he made some radical statements relative to the relations of women employees, particularly stenographers, with their employers. He contrasted the vastly different relations that exist now between man and woman, because of business associations, with those which existed before woman began to play such an important part in the business world, and the rector expressed the belief very emphatically that he did not think the woman had been benefited by the change.

Going further Dr. Geer said that contact with woman had made many employers lose all sense of chivalry and honor and that "they can be as cruel as the grave to the most defenseless class of wage workers the civilized world has ever known." While there is much truth in what Dr. Geer says there is also something to be said on the other side. The average stenographer, particularly if she is a city bred girl, enters the business world with a full sense of all the responsibilities she has to meet to herself and to her employer. There is no more danger for the good business woman than there is for the good business man. The women who now form so an important part of the business world are not dodging pitfalls all the time; probably not half so much as they are in what is termed "good society," and the average business woman of New York today is a good specimen of American womanhood.

Perhaps there is some ground for Dr. Geer's charge that employers are losing sense of chivalry and honor but let us hope not. It would be much better to believe that chivalry and honor will always be foremost in the makeup of man and that their conduct toward woman will always be of the sort that a good son shows toward his mother.

FORM A "BOOSTER" CLUB.

In a number of cities in the North what are termed "Booster" Clubs are being organized for a great purpose and great field. A good example of their purpose is shown in the platform of the Troy, (N. Y.) "Booster" club which follows:

"We believe in Troy. We shall speak a good word for Troy every time we get a chance. We believe Troy is the very best city in the world. We get our bread and butter here—why should we not say Troy is a good place? There are lots of things about Troy we don't like, but we are not going to pass them along to every Tom, Dick and Harry who comes this way; rather we shall enumerate the good features of our city—and they are many.

"We believe the people who are always knocking Troy should move along and take their hammers with them. We believe we should spend our money in Troy, and thus help to make our city prosperous. We believe every man should consider himself a committee of one to further the interests of Troy. We believe if we cannot say a good word for Troy it is better for us to keep silent on the subject. This will be our creed and we will endeavor to live up to it."

It strikes the Daily Press that it would be a mighty good idea to have such an organization in Newport News. There is no doubt that there is need of such an organization as it would probably in a measure counteract the healthy and lusty Knockers' club, which can be found in session almost every hour of the day on almost every street corner. Newport News like all other cities has its element which never misses a chance to get a hammer out and "knock" the town. It is a delight for them to run down the city and everything connected with it.

In Newport News the "Booster" club would have a fruitful field. Let us organize one.

SHRIEK WRITERS BARRED.

Supreme Court Justice Greenbaum and District Attorney Jerome have decided to make an attempt to curb yellow newspaper sensationalism during the Thaw trial. With the journalistic exaggerations and contradictions of the Gillette trial at Herkimer still fresh in mind, not to mention the Nan Patterson and Josephine Terranova cases, they have determined to prevent comment on the Thaw trial. There is no objection to news accounts of the proceedings, but the heart-throb parveyors, dope specialists, first aid to the injured, heart surgeons, ex-ministers, ex-actresses, ex-defendants, phrenologist, hypnotists, astrologers, "human document analysts," beauty specialists, mind readers and almost famous folk of one kind or another will find themselves barred.

There exists widespread interest in the progress and outcome of the Thaw trial. The defendant is a member of one of the richest families in Pennsylvania; his wife is a woman over whom artists have raved; his sister is a countess and

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as such has entered into the home of King Edward VII., and his victim's fame as an architect bids fair to last a century at least. These facts could hardly fail to arouse great public interest. But the individuals of the tribe who like to be referred to as "well known" writers and "an author of some note" whose signed articles are filled with maudlin sympathy, rank distortion and lackadaisical sentimentality will be relegated to the corridors.

There has been an enormous decrease in the trade in this country with China and the official reason given out from Washington is that the Chinamen overstocked themselves in 1905. If the Department of Commerce told the truth they would say that it was the boycott that was keeping American goods out of the Chinese markets.

The Dutch East Indies are far away and the distance lessens the horror of four hundred lives being lost in a tidal wave, but just pause a second and think what a horrible thing it would be if such a catastrophe should occur on the Atlantic coast, in this country, and then you will better realize the full horror of the accident in the Dutch East Indies.

President Roosevelt has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Geographical society. To only other honorary members are members of the nobility of Europe. However, a little thing he that would not phase Teddy if he ever attended a meeting.

Liar is a bad word at any time but it sounds a little worse than usual when heard in the halls of Congress. That scene in the House of Representatives on Thursday made one think of the French House of Deputies.

The people received another lesson in the stupendous manner in which railroads do business nowadays when they read that the Pennsylvania was going to float \$6,000,000 worth of stock and bonds.

One of the Rockefellers is out with a statement in which he advises bachelors not to arry for money. It will probably use some hilarity among the nobly of Europe when it reaches that.

The Boston Globe's Washington correspondent is author of the statement that it is a fee report that two special alcove in the Congressional library are to be set aside to afford shelf room for President Roosevelt's special messages.

The lodge of Elks in Milwaukee has resolved not to tre in their fraternity home. Looks as if the holiday celebration is at lodge must have been something of an affair.

Only three months from today and the baseball fans will be scanning the bulletin boards for results in the National and American leagues.

A Buffalo woman has started a crusade against "deadgivers" in street cars. That woman does not know men, else she would know that those dead givers are but "sleepers."

INTESTINAL INDIGESTION.

Its Symptoms and the Way It Should Be Treated.

It was formerly thought that the stomach was the main organ of digestion, and dyspepsia was supposed always to have its seat there. But this question has been much studied of late, with the result that the stomach has been found to be of little account comparatively in the preparation of the food for absorption. The most important part of digestion occurs in the upper part of the intestine, where the food, after leaving the stomach, is churned and mixed thoroughly with the bile and pancreatic secretion.

Since, then, the intestine takes such an important part in digestion, it is natural to suppose that a failure to perform this function properly would give rise to serious disturbances of health, and such, in fact, is the case.

Intestinal indigestion is a not uncommon affection at all periods of life and is especially prevalent in children. The chief symptoms are flatulence, or wind, more or less colic, diarrhea, or more often constipation, or an alternation of the two and practical starvation, as shown in weakness and emaciation.

The treatment is mainly through diet, but this will vary, of course, according to age. In an infant the problem is a difficult one. If the child is fed artificially all prepared foods containing starch should be taken away, and cows' milk, modified as to the amount of fat, sugar or casein it contains, according to the physician's directions, should be substituted.

If the infant is nursing the life of the mother should be studied, for the state of her health may affect the milk injuriously.

In older children and adults the amount of fats and of starchy foods must be carefully regulated. Cereals, pastry, rice, potatoes and bread must be cut out of the dietary for a time or taken in very small quantity. When eaten at all they should be most thoroughly, even excessively, chewed, for in this way they may be in great measure digested by the saliva before reaching the intestine.

The diet should consist mainly of milk, white of eggs and the most digestible meats and fish. The diarrhea or constipation should be regulated, and sometimes the administration of intestinal antiseptics is beneficial. Regular exercise in the open air is of great value in the treatment. The cold bath or shower bath is often of service when it is followed by a healthy reaction.—Youth's Companion.

A Picture in Wood.

There are various glimpses of Whistler in the reminiscences of the late Sir Wyke Baylis, whom president of the Society of British Artists. Here is an incident of "hanging day" while Whistler occupied the presidency:

A carpenter held in his hand a piece of wood, with which he was about to steady a heavy frame. It was a baton of yellow deal, with a large knot of lovely color, pitch brown and gold, running the whole length of the board. Seizing the board, I made the carpenter saw out of it a fragment to fit a frame which stood on the mantelpiece. At a little distance the thing assumed the appearance of a golden sunset seen across an open country, with a little hill or clump of trees against the luminous sky. The gradation of color was beautiful beyond description. At that moment the president entered. We pointed across the gallery to the new "harmony in gold and brown" and congratulated him on its loveliness. Mr. Whistler, hastily putting his eyeglasses to his eye, exclaimed: "Eh, eh! What's that? Who lent that?" He was as much delighted as we were.

Premature Burial.

Statistics have been prepared to show that in Europe out of every 100 supposed deaths one person is resuscitated. Although members of the medical profession refuse to take any interest in the matter, it is probably true, says Suggestion, that many persons are buried while in a state of suspended animation. It is stated that in the cemetery just outside the town of Weimar there is special provision made against the danger of premature burial from suspended animation. No bodies are placed in the ground until they have spent a considerable time in a receiving vault. In the fingers of the corpse are placed strings which communicate with an alarm. The least movement will ring a bell in an adjoining chamber, where a guardian is always on the watch. In several instances by this timely alarm persons prematurely buried have been rescued. It is said that the provision arose from the tradition that one of the princes of Saxe-Weimar, this being their family burial place, was buried alive.

Oriental English.

Recently a baboo lawyer offered a delicious example in his defense of a woman client. She was accused of an assault, but he endeavored to show that she herself had been assaulted and had suffered damage of the most conspicuous feature of her countenance. "My learned friend with mere wind from a teapot thinks to browbeat me from my legs," he asserted. He had probably a "tempest in a teapot" in mind. "I only seek," he continued earnestly, "to place my bone of contention clearly in your honor's eye. My learned friend vainly runs amuck upon the sheet anchors of my case. My poor client has been deprived of some of her valuable leather (skin), the leather of her nose. Until the witness explains what became of my client's nose leather he cannot be believed. He cannot be allowed to raise a castle in the air by beating upon a bush."

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